Elaine Santantonio—Creating an efficient cyber workplace

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Creating an efficient cyber workplace

Having lived and worked all around the world managing networking—including Sweden, New Zealand, Oregon and Maryland—Elaine Santantonio may be the perfect person to improve mobility, communications and cyber security at Los Alamos National Lab.

From desktop to teraflops

A recipient of the Lab's 2014 Women Who Inspire awards, as the Network and Infrastructure Engineering (NIE) Division Leader, Santantonio helps provide technical communication and workplace infrastructure and services for the "desktop to teraflops" cyber workplace.

While Santantonio may be worldly, she came from humble beginnings, the daughter of a farmer and the first in her family to graduate from college.

New passion leads to a career in computing and application development

She earned her master's in biology from New Mexico State University and, passionate in statistics and programming, transitioned to computing and application development jobs far from her home.

She helped put mobile devices into the hands of Lab employees, praised for increasing efficiency and communication, but also introducing a substantial cyber security challenge for Santantonio and her team. Santantonio's organization also provides the classified and unclassified network infrastructure and services the Lab.

Like mother, like daughter—courageous and ambitious

Inspired by her mother, who dropped out of high school to raise a family but returned to school and obtained her GED, Santantonio urges young women beginning their careers to find the courage to believe in themselves, and to not be too humble to ask for help.